



# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

## Short Casts March 2014

**We'll see you next month, April 9th, 2014. Thank you again!**



### V. President By Pat Sleeper

CAF will "not" be having a General meeting this month as we had our annual Crab/shrimp fund raiser...thank you for coming!!! As you can guess it was

a sell out! Thanks to you!! We'll see you next month, April 9th, 2014. Thank you again! Pat Sleeper

### President's Line By Larry Willis



The comments that I received are that it was one of the best we have ever done. Two really great things came out of it. First, we made more money than we have in the past to fund our projects. All the money from the auctions and raffles goes to projects, not club administration. Secondly, we got a number of new members. I sincerely hope that they will take advantage of the monthly meetings. We have good fellowship, fly tying, a bragging session and a great program, plus a raffle. Sometimes we even raffle off fly rods. Newbies and old time members, please join us. The next meeting is April 9, 2014, at the C.A.R.D Center. Fly tying as social hour at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:30.

Finally, I would like to send a shout out to all who made this possible. Donors, volunteers, Spiteri's, the Masonic Family Center, S.T.A.R.S. and everyone who helped in any way and are not in any of the above categories. We could not have done it without you.



### Secretary's Minutes By Lincoln Gray

**Date of Meeting:** Jan 30th, 2014 Time of Meeting 6:00

- I. Call to Order by V. President – Pat Sleeper
- II. Attendance: Secretary – Lincoln Gray-unable to attend
- V. Treasurer's Report: Don Sleeper
- Dinner committee - Those @ the meeting: Pat & Don Sleeper, Scott Joyce, Frank Spiteri, Eric See, Dana Miller, Dennis Boyd, Steve Bohnemeyer, Dave McKinney, Terry Mich, John and Clair Hamiter.

#### Dinner committee:

1. Entrance and exit: back to the center doors...as it use to be in past years.
2. Telephone system is new and located at the center doors!
3. Set-up - tear down committee - same: John and Laura Asarian, Tom Rosenow, Val Bowlby, Donna Murrel, Pat & Don Sleeper, Polly Bisoga, Terry Mich, Lincoln Gray.
4. Sales book (writes up verbal Auction sales to buyers/customer) No Lance. Who can handle this? Richard (Pat's cousin).
5. Runners .....Richard Wilkerson(Pat's cousin), Jessica Wilkerson (wife), Steve Bohnemeyer
6. Awards: Dave McKinney will do the awards announcing.
  - a. The awards this year will be engraved/etched into the face and not carved wood.
  - b. Charlie Beach just died..he was the first Golden Zipper recipient we want to honor him.
7. Eric will show the pictures on the screen and pictures from the club members can be e-mailed to the Sleepers who will in-turn send to Eric...@ Eric's request.
8. Pontoon...
9. Silent Auction: Stop writing bids (time) helpers to monitor tables. Helping to pull auction sheets: Eric, Steve Bohnemeyer, Dennis Boyd.

Adjournment ...7:35 by Pat Sleeper

### Speaker

**Andrew Harris** will be our speaker for April 9th, 2014 at the CARD center in Chico at 7:30 P.M. And fly tying starting at 6:30 P.M. Remember we always have snacks and drinks.

Andrew began his guiding career at Clearwater House on Hat Creek in 1997, guiding clients on the rivers surrounding Mt. Shasta and Mt. Lassen. Andrew has also guided extensively on the Feather, Yuba, Lower Sac, and Trinity Rivers. Andrew has fly fished in the Bahamas, Belize, Costa Rica, Mexico, Venezuela, New Zealand, Chile and Tasmania. Andrew is the author of "Plumas National Forest Trout Fishing Guide" and is a frequent contributor to California Fly Fisher magazine. Andrew lives in Red Bluff, California



# Pontoon/Float Tube Safety

By Don Sleeper

Yes, I have a pontoon boat and they're a lot of fun; and, great exercise. You won't believe how fast you can get hauling on a pontoon; but, it DOES require some practice and skill. You should dip your oars exactly the same on both sides, or you could start turning in circles. Also, you will need fins. Once you put the oars away, the fins will help keep you from turning and will maneuver you, as you fish. Even in fast water with a pontoon boat you can wear your fins for maneuverability. But be careful in shallow fast water: such as rapids...keep your fins out of the water so they don't get caught on fast approaching boulders or the fast moving current. We like to stick with the oars at that time, keeping the boat pointed down stream and away from objects.

Pontoons draft very little and fishing maneuverability can surpass a boat or a float tube since your lower half is in the water...each has it's advantages and disadvantages.

If you are using your pontoon for still water only, you can use just about any model you like- but if using it on moving water, not all models are suitable! If using it on rivers, the pontoons should be made out of commercial raft style material and oars appropriate for the boat and water. The pontoons need an up curved rise to them so if you go over a water fall the tips don't dive under the water. I've seen one of these flip when a guy took one into a whirl pool: the tips dove and the back churn pushed the tips under him, and he went over. Remember there is no seatbelt and you MUST wear a life vest, I recommend the low profile kayaker type- better freedom of movement for casting and rowing.

## Things You'll Need With a Pontoon:

- Float tube Fins
- Waders (for cold water)
- Air pump and valve
- Loud whistle (for lakes with speed boats)
- Night light if on the water after dark
- Water and snacks
- Anchors and rope are important even in rivers
- Patch Kit
- Spare oar lock is handy

## Helpful Steps

### Step 1

Float tubes or pontoon boats should be stored partially inflated. The day before your outing, it's a good idea to pump up your tube until the outer covering is fairly tight and let it sit for a few hours so you can make sure it holds air. If it doesn't, you will need to pull the bladder and check for leaks and fix with a patch. You will need to make sure you have your air pump and a patch kit on board while you are in the water. You may also want to take a net bag for holding cans of soda or water. You will want to make sure that you have all of your fishing items organized in your tube pouches. And remember to keep your pontoon or float tube only partially inflated if you drive to higher locations to fish because the high elevation will cause your tube to expand.

### Step 2

When you get to the water, carry all your gear that you plan to take with you to the waters' edge and lay it all out on the ground and check to make sure you haven't forgotten anything. If the water is cold you will want to have waders for comfort. I prefer neoprene waders for float tubing and use in my pontoon because they are comfortable for sitting for extended periods, and they fit snug so you can move easily through the water. In warm water you will not need waders (hip boots work fine with pontoons), but in either case you will need fins. You can put the fins on right before you enter the water. I look for a shallow area with easy access and then place the tube or pontoon in the water and load my fishing rod, food and drinks on the boat and push it out into deeper water before seating myself in the craft. I prefer thigh deep water for getting into a float tube because it's easier to move around in the water, once you're on board.

### Step 3

When you get out away from the bank you will need to make note of landmarks around your entry area so you can find it later on your way back. You will also want to make note of any other boats, etc. on the water. At this point you will need to keep your eyes peeled for signs of fish. You also need to check for currents. You can do this by sitting still in the water and see if you are moving in relation to a bush or tree on the bank. Many lakes have currents in them that are barely detectable and these currents can be the reason that you will find yourself far away from your entry area in a relatively short time. Use your anchor when there is wind or a slight current if you want to fish in the same area. On a river use a heavier anchor. I use about a 10 pound anchor now on rivers, but be careful with anchors on rivers, never anchor in swift water with a pontoon. You may want to stay fairly close to your entry area until you are sure your boat is holding air and to make sure that you haven't forgotten anything. Again when on rivers always use your fins whether in a float tube or pontoon boat. Another thing to remember if you encounter heavy waves or wind, head for the shore. Once in shore you can always move around the edge of the lake back to the place where you started.

### Step 4

When you see rising fish or movement in the water, you will want to get fairly close and cast to those areas. It always amazes me how close I can get to rising fish without spooking them and it does give you an extra advantage. This is the real beauty of using a float tube or pontoon. If you're like me, you will be concentrating on fishing and not on the clock. Give your self plenty of time to get back to your entry area before it gets dark. But most of all enjoy the experience. You will find that float tubing or using a pontoon is a very relaxing and a peaceful way to catch lots of fish.

Don on the Beaverhead out of Dillon Montana.

Pat on the middle fork of the Flathead in Monatana

# Chico Area Flyfisher's (CAF) wish to express their sincere appreciation to the following PATRONS!

Sierra Stream & Mountain  
 Fish First  
 The Chico Fly shop  
 Spiteri's Deli  
 Miller Dean Realty  
 Round Table Pizza  
 Olde Gold Estate Jewelry  
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 Morning Thunder Cafe  
 5th Street Steakhouse  
 Sage  
 Icon Products  
 Simms  
 Sue Simmons  
 Michael Silveira  
 DR Scott Joyce  
 Wade Lacque Auctioneer  
 And... A BIG "Thank you" to our members  
 for your wonderful support!!

## Awards for March 2014

Larry Bould was presented "the Press Powell Lifetime Achievement Award" for his dedication to the development and promotion of fly fishing with significant contributions to the industry. The Award was started in 2006 in memory of Press Powell and his contributions to our sport. [http://thechicoflyshop.com/The\\_Chico\\_Fly\\_Shop\\_-\\_About\\_Us.html](http://thechicoflyshop.com/The_Chico_Fly_Shop_-_About_Us.html)

Frank Spiteri was presented "The Sabertooth Award" for his work over the years promoting the sport of fly fishing through his continuous hard work participation in club activities!

Lance Gray was presented "the Hall of Fame Award" for distinguishing him self through significant accomplishments in promoting the sport of fly fishing.

In Memory of Charlie Beach, the "Golden zipper award" wasn't given this year. Charlie Beach, who was the first recipient, passed away on January 18, 2014 at his home surrounded by family. Charlie was born on October 22, 1924. A small memorial was given at the CAF dinner with his son as the guest of honor.



## CAF General Meeting Speaker List 2014

CAF meets monthly and presents a variety of exciting flyfishing-related programs throughout the year. The meet-ings also include monthly fly tying demonstrations, raffle prizes, refreshments, and the very best info and lies about Northern California Flyfishing. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month. Fly tying begins at 6:30pm - general meeting begins at 7:30pm.

Location: CARD Center - 545 Vallombrosa Avenue - Chico, California, 95926. We look forward to see you at our next meeting!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Program</u>
April 9th (Wed)	Andrew Harris	Spring fishing in the Fall River area
May 14 (Wed)	Craig Nielsen	TBA
June 11 (Wed)	Dave McKinney	Movie on fly fishing- TBA
Sep 10 (Wed)	Jon Baiocchi	TBA
Oct 8, (Wed)	TBA	Fishing Pyramid Lake, NV
Nov 12 (Wed)	Michael Kossow	Adopt a Stream - biologist/game warden

## Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2013

This is where you can locate future outings that Chico Area Flyfisher's provide to its Membership. These Club Fishouts are designed to give fly fishers the best opportunity to catch fish and enjoy the outdoors. Our Club has many accomplished anglers who are willing to share their skills with others and you are only limited by willingness to become involved. From selecting promising locations and times, to helping those members new to the sport or experienced, we try to make these trips fun, exciting and successful.

We are always looking for additional fishout leaders. If you have one of those favorite spots that you don't mind sharing with others and would like to lead your fellow CAF members for a day of fun fishing, and fellowship, please contact Lincoln Gray or Don Sleeper. 345-1197

This schedule may change depending on the fish bite and weather conditions.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fishout Leader</u>
March 22	Lewiston Lake	Open
April 10 thru 15	Pyramid Lake	Don Sleeper
April 26	Trout Opener	Open
May 24	Crater Lake	Don Sleeper
June 1	Eagle Lake	Open
June 21	Lake Almanor Hex Hatch	Lincoln Gray
July	Philbrook Reservoir	Open
August	Open	Open
Sept 20	Lewiston or Davis	Don Sleeper
Oct 1st(Wed)	Pyramid Lake	OpenOct
Almanor	Open	
Nov 8	Eagle Lake	Don Sleeper
Nov	Big Chico Creek	Eric See

Other ideas: Floating Indicator Clinic, Float Tube Clinic, Fly Casting Clinic, Yuba River, Fort Bragg area Surf Fly fishing---

# Fly of the Month for March, 2014

## The QMR Emerger

By: Ray Narbaitz

Let me start by saying that, to the best of my knowledge, this is not the real name of any fly. It is a name I made up, because I wasn't quite sure what to call it. Part of the problem is, like so many flies, it is an amalgamation of several different patterns and ideas.

The Q is for Bob Quigley, who was one of the better known guides and fly designers on Fall River for years. He came up with the Quigley Cripple among other great Spring Creek Flies, and it carries his name to this day. It imitates an emerging May Fly that got stuck in the shuck as it was emerging, and is trapped in the water column. The Cripple, which is still a killer pattern, did not have a Marabou abdomen and used no synthetics.

That brings us to the M, which stands for Marabou. That concept was shown to us at a tying demonstration for the CAF decades ago. Showing us how to tie it was Rex Thompson, who was a very active member of the club back then, and who now (after moving around quite a bit) lives in the Medford area. The version he tied was used primarily to imitate PMD's. While it had a marabou abdomen, again, it used no synthetics.

The R is for me. I have made a couple of adjustments in the way the fly is tied, and when I tie them for Sierra Stream, they refer to them as Ray's Emerger. I tie them in three colors, white, olive and gray. The white works for PMD's, the olive for BWO's and the gray for a lot of stuff, but mostly Midges. While I use a couple of different synthetics, I don't think either Bob or Rex had anything against them, I just don't think they were available when they came up with their bugs.

Hook: TMC100 for 16 & 18, 101 for 20 to 24

Thread: 8/0 color to match fly. On the really small sizes, I use Tiemco 16/0

Abdomen: Marabou

Thorax: Superfine, usually close to the same color as the Marabou, but PMD for the white

Wing: Zlon, usually the same color as the Marabou, but white works for them all

Hackle: Grizzly on the Gray and Olive, but Brown on the PMD

1. Debarb the hook and place it in the vise.



2. Start the thread, and take it back to the point where the hook starts to bend.
3. Take three or four strands of Marabou. Try to get Marabou that is fluffy. You should avoid using that long, stringy ended Marabou on any fly you tie. Tie in the Marabou by the tips at the hook bend, with a little of it sticking out, like a tail.
4. Grab the butt ends of the Marabou and the thread together. Wrap them around the hook to just past the half-way point of the hook shank. By wrapping them together, the Marabou will twist around the thread, reinforcing it. Tie off the Marabou, and clip off the excess.
5. Dub a sparse amount of the Superfine on the thread. Make the dubbing as thin as possible, and wrap the Thorax. All you want here is a ball of dubbing.
6. Tie in the Zlon with a piece a little longer than the final wing and tie it with the wing material angled over the eye of the hook. Tie in the back of the Zlon so that it is tight up against the ball of the Thorax.
7. Cut off the excess of the Zlon that is over the Thorax. Cut it so there is a little stub left like a wing case over the ball of dubbing. Thread wrap a little of the Zlon so you have a base to put the hackle on, and still leave a bit of room at the eye. You want the wing to lean over the eye a bit, not stand straight up.
8. Tie in the hackle and make no more than two or three turns between the Thorax and the Wing.
9. Tie down the hackle and trim off the excess.
10. Advance the thread to the eye, make a small head, whip finish, and trim the thread.
11. Trim the wing to your desired length.
12. Tightly pinch the tail between your finger and thumb nail right at the bend of the hook. With your other hand, break off the Marabou against your thumb nail with a quick jerk. This will give you a very short tail that does not have that cut off square look.

## BIG Fish

Picture of a 12.1 pound 30 inch trout that I caught on 02-22-2014 at 9:20 in the morning. It was caught on an indicator and nymph rig that I learned from Lincoln Gray at the last meeting and is the one he uses on the Sacramento River. The nymph was a black body with stainless steel rib with a silver bead and black thorax



Chad Foster caught this at the Feather River.

## LOCAL GUIDES

Chico Fly Shop  
Chico, CA  
(530) 345-9983

Fish First  
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(530) 343-8300

Sierra Stream & Mountain  
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**CAF WEBPAGE**  
<http://chicoareaflyfishers.org>

**FISHING REPORTS**  
[www.fishfirst.com](http://www.fishfirst.com)

Change of address?  
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**Contact**  
Don Sleeper..... 345-1197



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